

Rule 15-605. Imposition of sanctions.

1 Absent aggravating or mitigating circumstances, upon application of the factors set out in
2 Rule 15-604 of this Article, the following sanctions are generally appropriate.

3 (a) Declicensure. Declicensure is generally appropriate when a licensed paralegal practitioner:

4 (a)(1) knowingly engages in professional misconduct as defined in Rule 8.4(a), (d), (e), or (f)
5 of the Licensed Paralegal Practitioner Rules of Professional Conduct with the intent to benefit
6 the licensed paralegal practitioner or another or to deceive the court, and causes serious or
7 potentially serious injury to a party, the public, or the legal system, or causes serious or
8 potentially serious interference with a legal proceeding; or

9 (a)(2) engages in serious criminal conduct, a necessary element of which includes intentional
10 interference with the administration of justice, false swearing, misrepresentation, fraud,
11 extortion, misappropriation, or theft; or the sale, distribution, or importation of controlled
12 substances; or the intentional killing of another; or an attempt or conspiracy or solicitation of
13 another to commit any of these offenses; or

14 (a)(3) engages in any other intentional misconduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or
15 misrepresentation that seriously adversely reflects on the licensed paralegal practitioner's fitness
16 to practice law as a licensed paralegal practitioner.

17 (b) Suspension. Suspension is generally appropriate when a licensed paralegal practitioner:

18 (b)(1) knowingly engages in professional misconduct as defined in Rule 8.4(a), (d), (e), or (f)
19 of the Licensed Paralegal Practitioner Rules of Professional Conduct and causes injury or
20 potential injury to a party, the public, or the legal system, or causes interference or potential
21 interference with a legal proceeding; or

22 (b)(2) engages in criminal conduct that does not contain the elements listed in Rule 15-
23 605(a)(2) but nevertheless seriously adversely reflects on the licensed paralegal practitioner's
24 fitness to practice law as a licensed paralegal practitioner.

25 (c) Reprimand. Reprimand is generally appropriate when a licensed paralegal practitioner:

26 (c)(1) negligently engages in professional misconduct as defined in Rule 8.4(a), (d), (e), or (f)
27 of the Licensed Paralegal Practitioner Rules of Professional Conduct and causes injury to a party,
28 the public, or the legal system, or causes interference with a legal proceeding; or

29 (c)(2) engages in any other misconduct that involves dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or
30 misrepresentation and that adversely reflects on the licensed paralegal practitioner's fitness to
31 practice law as a licensed paralegal practitioner.

32 (d) Admonition. Admonition is generally appropriate when a licensed paralegal practitioner:

33 (d)(1) negligently engages in professional misconduct as defined in Rule 8.4(a), (d), (e), or
34 (f) of the Licensed Paralegal Practitioner Rules of Professional Conduct and causes little or no
35 injury to a party, the public, or the legal system or interference with a legal proceeding, but
36 exposes a party, the public, or the legal system to potential injury or causes potential interference
37 with a legal proceeding; or

38 (d)(2) engages in any professional misconduct not otherwise identified in this rule that
39 adversely reflects on the licensed paralegal practitioner's fitness to practice law as a licensed
40 paralegal practitioner.

Effective November 1, 2018